



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

Promoting the wise use of land – Helping to build great communities

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

WHO: County of San Luis Obispo Department of Planning and Building

WHAT: A Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Santa Margarita Quarry (Hanson) Expansion Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan Amendment is complete and available for public review and comment. The DEIR addresses the environmental impacts that may be associated with the request to expand the existing Santa Margarita Quarry (quarry) by approximately 33 acres, thereby enlarging the “footprint” of the quarry from 160.1 acres to 193.1 acres. The proposed expansion would yield an estimated 21.5 million tons of aggregate reserves. These reserves, in combination with existing entitled reserves, would result in the quarry producing 33.2 million tons of aggregate products over a 59-year period. No changes to the quarry’s existing annual production volumes or intensity are proposed beyond what is currently permitted. Proposed reclamation activities would be initiated in those areas of the quarry that have been depleted of reserves in a manner concurrent to ongoing mining operations. All proposed reclamation activities would be fully completed within 5 years of resource depletion. Lands within the quarry would be reclaimed to open space uses, including seasonal water storage, riparian habitat, oak woodland habitat, and chaparral vegetation.

The proposed project is within the Rural Lands and Agriculture land use categories and is located at 16815 El Camino Real, approximately three (3) miles northeast of the community of Santa Margarita. County File Number: DRC2011-00098/DRC2011-00099.

WHERE: Copies of the DEIR and all documents referenced in the DEIR, are available for review from the County Environmental Coordinator, 976 Osos St., Rm. 200, San Luis Obispo. Copies of the EIR are also available for review at the following locations: Atascadero, Santa Margarita, Cal Poly, and SLO City/County Libraries. The DEIR is also on the Planning Department’s web site at: www.sloplanning.org under “Environmental Impact Reports”.

HOW TO COMMENT OR GET MORE INFORMATION: Anyone interested in commenting on the DEIR should submit a written statement within the 45-day comment review period to Xzandrea Fowler of the San Luis Obispo County Department of Planning and Building at 976 Osos St., Rm. 200, San Luis Obispo, CA 93408-2040 or to the email address hanson-smqe-comments@co.slo.ca.us by **4:30 p.m., Monday, January 12, 2015**. If you need more information about this project, please contact Ms. Fowler at (805) 781-1172 or by email at xfowler@co.slo.ca.us.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS: The DEIR addresses the proposed Quarry Expansion Project’s potential impacts on the following issues: Aesthetics and Visual Resources, Agricultural Resources, Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Biological Resources, Cultural and Paleontological Resources, Geology, Soils, and Mineral Resources, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Land Use, Noise and Vibration, Public Services and Utilities, Recreation, Transportation and Circulation, Water Quality and Supply. The DEIR also considers three alternatives in addition to the “No Project” alternative.

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing before the San Luis Obispo Planning Commission has been tentatively scheduled for May 14, 2015, in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, County Government Center, San Luis Obispo.

****If you challenge this matter in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this public notice or in written correspondence delivered to the appropriate authority at or before the public hearing****

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING: A public DEIR informational meeting will be held on **December 4, 2014 at 6:00 PM** at the **Santa Margarita Elementary School**, located at 22070 H Street, Santa Margarita, CA 93453. County staff and the County EIR consultant will be available to discuss the DEIR, the upcoming hearing process, and to answer questions on the information contained in the DEIR.

Official comments must be submitted in writing to ensure the intent of the comment is captured and understood by the County and its consultant.